



Eastminster Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
December 3, 2017



— FIRST SUNDAY OF —
ADVENT

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017

10:30 a.m.

** Congregation is invited to stand.*

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the friendship pads and pass them along the row and back again.

Prelude *The entry of the light.*

Silent Meditation

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, but saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time. Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Brian Wren

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Linda & Tom Hardenbergh

*** Hymn #88** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* verses 1-4

SERVICE OF CONTRITION

***Prayer of Confession**

***Silent Prayer**

***The General Prayer of Confession**

Almighty and most merciful Father. We have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left un done those things we ought to have done, and we have done those things we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy on us. Spare thou those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus, our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father for his

sake; that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous and sober life to the glory of Thy holy name. AMEN

***Declaration of God's Grace**

Hear the good news! The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The Lord does not deal with us according to our sins.

As a father pities his children, so the Lord has mercy on those who turn to him. Know, therefore, that by grace you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen

***Response**

[363, *Darwall's 148th*]

Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come and gather all the saints to their eternal home. Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say rejoice!

***Sharing the Peace of Christ**

(Turn to your neighbors and say, "The Peace of Christ be with you.")

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Anthem

As Lately We Watched

arr. Hurbutt

Reading from Scripture

Isaiah 64:1-9

(Pew Bible, page 652 – OT)

Seasons of the Church Chant

(See next page for chant.)

Reading from Scripture

Mark 13:24-37

(Pew Bible, page 47 – NT)

Hymn #83

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Sermon

"Advent...He's Coming"

Susan Rosser & Sulin Campbell, soloists

Response to the Word [remain seated]

[367]

Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home. Gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from

sin. There forever purified, in thy presence to abide. Come with all thine angels, come; raise the glorious harvest home.

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER

Minute for Ministry Christmas Joy Offering Robin Turner

Presenting Our Gifts

Offertory

*Doxology #606

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above the heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

*Prayer of Dedication

O God, accept these gifts we bring. May they be multiplied in your hand; use them, we pray, to further the work of the Kingdom. They represent our lives, our time, talents and treasure. All that we have and all that we are has been given to us in trust. Give us the will, we pray, to relieve suffering and lift spirits and spread the Good News of the Gospel in the name of our risen Lord. AMEN

Joys and Concerns of the Congregation / Prayers of Intercession / The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn #106 Prepare the Way, O Zion

*Benediction

*Congregational Response [104, Valet Will Ich Dir Geben]
You come, O Lord, with gladness in mercy and goodwill, to bring an end to sadness and bid our fears be still. In

patient expectation we live for that great day When your renewed creation your glory shall display.

Participants in today's service:

Minister: Rev. Shirley L. Paxton
Worship Leader: Elder David Duryea
Children's Message: Neil Myer
Choir Director: Chelsea Berner
Hand Bell Director: Heather Myer
Organist: Tamar Mikeladze

Seasons of the Church Chant and Description:

*Advent Christmas, Epiphany, Lent
Easter, Pentecost, seasons of the church.*

Advent, he's coming, prepare ye the way
Christmas, "gloria in excelsis" angels sang
Epiphany, wise men, he came for human kind
Lent - Jesus crucified for all (2,3,4)
Easter, he's risen. Like Christ, we, too shall rise
Pentecost, the Spirit, tongues of fire descend from heaven
Celebration, jubilation there's Good News to tell
Be joyful, be faithful, through the seasons of the church.

Composed for children and youth choirs.
West Side Presbyterian Church, Ridgewood, New Jersey
Rev. Shirley L. Paxton

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“Rejoice, The Lord Is King!” Words: Charles Wesley © 1746 – Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net A-725831.

Welcome!

We're glad you're here to worship God with us and to share in the fellowship of this church community. If you are looking for a church home, we would be honored to have you join us. Please speak to the Pastor or one of the Ushers following the service.

Nursery care is available for infants through age three from **9:15-11:45** each Sunday morning in our Nursery located in the **Christian Education Wing** on the **Lower Level**.

Church Hours

Monday through Thursday:
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. **Closed Fridays.**



Follow Eastminster on **Facebook**. We are under Eastminster Presbyterian Church East Lansing.

Today at Eastminster

Greeters

Today: Doug and Betty Hall

Next Sunday: Dave & Mary Ann Merchant

Ushers

Head Usher: Heather Myer; Devan Stahl & Chris Wright

Flowers

The flowers today are given by Chase & Suzanne Hunt in memory of their parents.

Church Leadership

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey O'Neill	Interim Pastor
Dr. Fred Graham	Parish Advisor
Rev. Shirley Paxton	Parish Advisor
Neil Myer	Director of Discipleship
Sam O'Neill	Office Administrator
Tamar Mikeladze	Organist
Chelsea Berner	Adult Choir Director
Heather Myer	Bell Choir Director
Audri Bello	Nursery Attendant
Nino Napetvaridze	Nursery Attendant

This Week at Eastminster

December 3 - 10

Today, 12/3 1st Sunday of Advent

Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Worship	10:30 a.m.

Children's Worship

Advent Workshop	11:30 a.m.
Conducting Recital	7:00 p.m.

MONDAY, 12/4

Staff Meeting	9:00 a.m.
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TUESDAY, 12/5

Presbytery Meeting - Mason	
Weekday Bible Study	1:00 p.m.
Bells	7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, 12/6

Men's Bible Study	7:00 a.m.
Hope Closet	10:00 a.m.

Session	7:00 p.m.
UKirk@MSU	7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, 12/7

Cultured Purls	9:00 a.m.
Admin/Finance Team	9:30 a.m.
Choir	7:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, 12/9

Advent House	9:45 a.m.
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SUNDAY, 12/10 2nd Sunday of Advent

Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Worship	10:30 a.m.

Children's Worship

Fellowship	11:30 a.m.
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AA: Wed. & Thurs. 7 p.m.; Fri. 9:30 p.m.; Sat. 10 a.m.; Al-Anon: Thurs. 8:15 p.m.



The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family and friends of **Sally Hartley**, who died and entered the Church Triumphant on November 23; she was 95. A memorial service will be held at the House of Prayer in Haslett next Monday. If you are planning to attend, please contact Sally's daughter, Mary Ann Cooley at 896-2934.



Choral Conducting Recital

Our choir director, **Chelsea Berner** will

be giving her choral conducting recital this evening, Dec. 3 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fairchild Theatre in the Auditorium at MSU. Please come out and support Chelsea!



Upcoming

Worship Events

Our next observance of communion will be Sunday morning,

December 24, the fourth Sunday of Advent. The Christmas Eve candlelight service that day will be held at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday School

9:30 – 10:20



Ages 4-Grade 2

Holy Moly is designed to ignite a biblical imagination that lasts a lifetime for young children. Each week participants see a video and use their gifts of observation to become theologians in their own right. It is amazing to get their insight.

Dec 3 Ezekiel

Dec 10 Daniel

Dec 17 Jonah

Sundays @ 9:30 a.m.

THE OPEN DOOR

for all ages



Upper elementary, middle school, high school and adults of all ages are invited to join us for this interactive time of faith formation Sunday mornings.

**Ages 4—2nd Grade
(during worship)**



Children's Worship was created to make a special place where children can come to encounter God, to be still with God and to listen to God. It is a place where they come to nurture their spiritual life.

Dec 3 The Prophets Show the Way to Bethlehem

Dec 10 Mary and Joseph Show the Way to Bethlehem

Dec 17 The Shepherds Show the Way to Bethlehem



Sundays, 9:30 a.m.

Green Room

Advent means “coming,” so the theme of our December Adult Education is “What’s Coming?”

Dec 3 “What’s Coming in Christian Education/Formation?” with Neil Myer, Director of Christian Education.

Dec 10 “What’s Coming in Ethical Issues Regarding End-of-Life Decisions?” with Dr. Devan Stahl, Assistant Professor, Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life Sciences at MSU.

Dec 17 “What’s Coming in Interfaith Relations?” with Rabbi Amy Bigman, Congregation Shaarey Zedek in East Lansing.



**Advent Workshop
TODAY**

**Immediately following
the worship service**

The Advent Workshop has been a beloved tradition of Eastminster Presbyterian Church for several years. Continue this tradition by celebrating the first Sunday of Advent with your Eastminster Presbyterian church family after worship! We'll begin in Fellowship Hall with delicious food,

participate in a mission project, use our creative skills in different ways, listen to beautiful seasonal music, sign cards for our homebound members, and stroll through nativity displays from around the world!



Church Women
United
of Greater Lansing
Monday, December 11
1:00 p.m.

Calvary Lutheran Church
6301 St. Joseph Hwy., Lansing
Theme: "A Program of Christmas Carols"
Questions? Contact Sandra Hassen
517-721-1368



The 2017
Eastminster
Advent
Devotional

booklet is available on the table in the Narthex.

Eastminster Holiday Mission Traditions!



Haven House Adopt-a-Family 2017

All our family members have been adopted! Haven House asks that all items be dropped off at Haven House the week of Monday, December 4th with the final drop off day being Friday, December 15th. Do not drop the gifts off at the church! Wrapping the gifts is up to you, but if you don't wrap them, we ask that you supply wrapping paper and tape for the family to wrap them. Be sure to label each item with the assigned number/letter located on the top right of your information sheet. Thank you for your generosity.



Salvation Army Christmas Food Baskets 2017

We have committed to providing 20 Christmas dinner food baskets, each including a ham. As of Wednesday, there were two left. Be sure to sign the project participation sheet when you do so.

FOOD BASKETS

If you are interested in contributing \$25 toward the cost of the hams (with or without a grocery basket), note that on the sign-up sheet

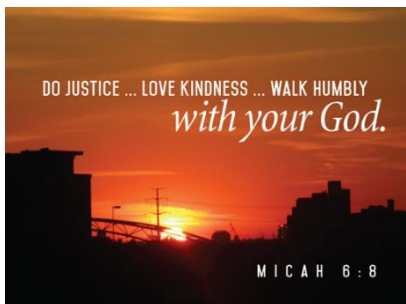


Our "Live Simply" stewardship campaign for 2018 has concluded, but there are still a number of people who have not yet pledged for 2018 and they will be called in December. We have a challenge budget of \$385,000. The final budget for 2018, approved by Session, will be announced at our annual meeting in January. If you would like to pledge and have not yet, pledge cards can be found under the names tags in the narthex.

as well, and put your check in the lock box outside of the Church Office, made out to Eastminster Presbyterian Church and noting “Hams” in the memo line. No one needs to actually purchase a ham. The church mission team will take care of ordering them and delivering them with the baskets.

The filled baskets should be delivered to Eastminster on Monday, December 11, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., or early on **Tuesday, December 12**, between 9 and 9:45 a.m. If delivering on Monday, remove perishables from your basket and place them in the refrigerators, either on the main floor of the church or in the kitchen in the lower level. If delivering early on Tuesday morning, just leave your filled baskets in the church kitchen on the main floor.

If you sign up to provide a food basket but find you cannot provide one after all, please contact Sam O’Neill before Monday, December 11, at 517-243-2669, so that provisions can be made to fulfill our commitment to the Salvation Army of 20 baskets.



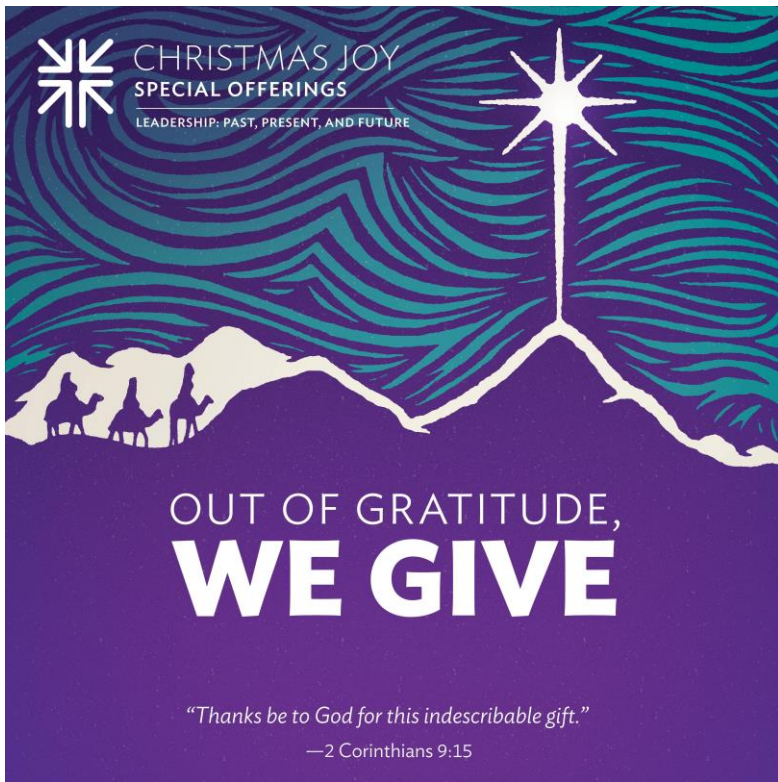
Eastminster Presbyterian Church

*Mercy, Peace, and Justice
Vision Statement*

Adopted by Session June 14, 2017

We believe we are called as a church of Jesus Christ to promote compassion, peace, and social justice by seeking to understand and actively bear witness against discrimination, suffering, pain, and social and economic injustices throughout the world and in our own community. Silence, avoidance, and inaction are not options for us as Christians who profess that we believe in being disciples of Christ. We believe as a congregation we can help shape a future for people of all races, ethnicities, and national origins by:

1. Educating ourselves and others to be mindful of injustices;
2. Identifying existing and developing programs that address discrimination, suffering, pain, and social and economic injustices;
3. Walking humbly together along the path of active participation in these programs;
4. Coordinating our efforts within our church to educate and involve people of all ages and abilities.



*We will dedicate the Christmas Joy Offering on Sunday, December 24.
Envelopes are in the pews.*

WHAT DOES THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING DO?

SUPPORTING OUR PAST AND PRESENT LEADERS

By supporting the Board of Pensions (BOP), the Christmas Joy Offering honors the faithfulness of current and retired church workers and their families in need. Thanks in part to support from this Offering, church workers can receive critical financial assistance to support them through life's challenging circumstances. These generous actions bear witness to our faithful response to God's charge to love one another as Christ commanded.

PREPARING THE WAY FOR FUTURE LEADERS PC(USA), with its historic commitment to higher learning, has long promoted education and leadership development through the establishment and support of racial ethnic schools and colleges. Our future racial ethnic church leaders can receive much-needed assistance while they discover and pursue their professional goals at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges. Your gifts allow these ministries to continue—sustaining a tradition Presbyterians have carried out for nearly 140 years



*Third Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 17th*

*10:30 a.m. Worship
Christmas Choir Program
w/Brass Quintet*

*Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 24th*

*10:30 a.m.
Worship with Communion*

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Service - Lessons & Carols

7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 31st

10:30 a.m. Worship



Poinsettia
Recognitions

This year the poinsettias will be limited to a smaller number, but not the memorials and honors that will be acknowledged in print on Dec. 17, 24, and 31. The amount you give is up

to you. Any amounts over the cost of the plants will go in the flower fund to ensure flowers are at every Sunday worship service. To donate please use the form below and leave the completed form and check in the secure drop box outside the office. With much appreciation from your Worship and Music Team.

Donor Name(s)

\$ _____
Amount

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Eastminster Prayer Concerns

Please remember the following persons in your prayers:

Mandy Augenstein
Bill Cleary
Jesse Kwilinski
Heather Sturr

*Names to be included on the prayer list can be suggested to Rev. O'Neill
or the Church Office.*

Eastminster Church Officers

Elders

Class of 2018

Ruth Foster
Terry Graham
Sam O'Neill
Susan Smalley

Class of 2019

Brian Heitman
Norm Mackay
Brenda Ramsby
Barbara Stowitts

Class of 2020

Robin Bell
Beverly Bonning
Dave Duryea
Mike Foster

Interim Pastor

Rev. Dr. Jeffrey O'Neill

Clerk of Session

George H. Miller

Treasurer

Robert Kleine

Deacons

Class of 2018

Judy Dunn
Sue Miller
Barbara Moss
Tom Moss

Class of 2019

Sherri Blanchard
Sue Kalvonjian
Heather Myer
John Temples

Class of 2020

Heather Heitman

Eastminster Mission Statement

We, the members of Eastminster Presbyterian Church,
celebrate the grace of God and the redeeming love of Jesus Christ.

We believe we are called as God's children to:

Praise and worship God;

Nurture and support spiritual growth as a family of faith;

Promote an open and welcoming community;

Reach out to the world with compassion;

and seek God's justice.

We strive to develop and use our Spirit-given gifts

to share our faith in word and deed

as disciples who serve the Lord Jesus Christ

according to the will of God.

Adopted by the Session in 1999. Revised in 2011.

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www.eastminsterchurch.org